

WEATHER

&

CROPS

Week of: May 16 - 22, 2005

Number: 11

Released: May 23, 2005

CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 22, 2005

Dry conditions and below normal temperatures prevailed in the Commonwealth during most of the week, but a weekend storm brought some relief to the dry conditions. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.0. Although many producers welcomed the weekend showers, many felt that the showers were not nearly enough. Many farmers are beginning their first cutting of hay. It was reported that the yields are down due to the cooler than normal temperatures we have been experiencing. Small grain hay and haylage is also being harvested. Some producers reported that Virginia's wheat crop is looking good. Virginia's tobacco crop is also looking good especially after the weekend rain showers. Soybean planting is picking up speed increasing 15 percentage points. Other farming activities include sheep shearing, fence building, planting small grains, fertilizing meadows, planting vegetables, and scouting wheat for disease and insects.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
April 24, 2005	0	7	75	18
May 1, 2005	0	14	73	13
May 8, 2005	1	22	69	8
May 15, 2005	4	32	59	5
May 22, 2005	3	22	69	6

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	0	5	36	50	9
Livestock	0	2	19	68	11
Hay, (other)	0	8	48	41	3
Hay, (alfalfa)	0	4	44	46	6
Corn	0	10	28	53	9
Winter Wheat	3	8	27	51	11
Barley	2	8	28	49	13
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	0	6	43	44	7
Tobacco, Burley	0	0	5	90	5
Tobacco, Dark Fire-Cured	0	0	25	74	1
Cotton	0	5	29	66	0
Summer Potatoes	0	10	30	50	10
Apples, (all)	0	0	32	68	0
Peaches	0	1	38	57	4
Grapes	0	0	29	68	3

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year
Corn Planted	91	81	91	88
Corn Emerged	67	54	70	43
Soybeans Planted	32	17	30	25
Soybeans Emerged	12	3	14	8
Winter Wheat Headed	86	64	95	57
Barley Harvested	2	N/A	8	4
Tobacco, Flue-Cured Transplanted	90	77	87	84
Tobacco, Burley Transplanted	11	6	33	31
Tobacco, Dark Fire-Cured Transplanted	60	35	69	67
Peanuts Planted	73	39	81	84
Cotton Planted	89	77	96	96

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 22, 2005

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	76	41	57	-8	0.89	0.09	2
The Plains	72	38	56	-8	2.15	1.18	3
Winchester 7 SE	76	38	56	-8	1.71	0.87	4
Dale Enterprise	77	40	58	-6	1.69	0.92	2
WESTERN							
Glasgow	80	46	62	-4	1.68	0.84	2
Roanoke AP	81	48	63	-3	1.72	0.81	2
Waynesboro	74	42	57	-6	0.73	-0.11	2
Staunton AG	73	41	58	-5	1.64	0.80	2
CENTRAL							
Somerset	76	44	59	-6	1.84	0.79	4
Piedmont Res ST	82	45	60	-5	1.84	0.79	3
Bremo Bluff	77	39	61	-5	1.47	0.49	4
Richmond AP	77	47	64	-4	1.34	0.43	4
EASTERN							
Eastville	77	52	62	-5	1.28	0.51	3
Wallops Island	78	48	61	-6	1.82	1.05	3
Williamsburg	78	51	64	-4	0.55	-0.52	3
Keysville	82	48	67	2	1.56	0.65	4
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	77	40	59	-2	0.43	-0.48	3
Wytheville	79	38	59	-3	0.28	-0.63	2
Saltville	78	42	59	-3	0.56	-0.49	2
Richlands	79	40	58	2	0.69	-0.36	3
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	79	46	62	-3	3.24	2.17	4
Danville AG	81	51	65	-3	0.65	-0.26	3
Chatham	78	45	61	-3	2.03	1.05	4
Martinsville	77	44	62	-3	0.64	-0.34	3
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	82	52	65	-3	1.44	0.53	3
Oceana	82	50	64	-3	1.45	0.50	3
Emporia	79	48	66	0	0.63	-0.28	3
Newport News	84	51	67	0	1.14	0.23	3

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.
Precipitation Days=Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.